

In the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 11, line 20, with the following paragraph:

According to various embodiments, the techniques of the present invention contemplate identifying a zero pattern in block 301 to acquire zero pattern information. The zeros in block 301 are located primarily columns 311 and 313. A row of zeros can also be located at 333. As will be appreciated by one of skill in the art, blocks of coefficients may contain a number of zeros in the lower right hand corner of the block when only low frequency information is represented in the portion of the frame. A portion of a frame showing white space would typically be encoded as a transform coefficient block containing only a few DCT coefficients in the upper left hand corner. Zero patterns are also predominant during requantization or even during initial quantization with a high quantization scale. Zero patterns are also frequent when filters are applied to blocks of transform coefficients. As will be appreciated by one of skill in the art, zero patterns exist in a variety of different blocks including blocks from MPEG I-frames, P-frames, and B-frames. Applying filters to blocks of transform coefficients is described in U.S. Patent Application No. 09/867,966 ~~____~~ (Attorney Docket No. CISCP219) by Wu et al., and titled Methods and Apparatus for Transform Coefficient Filtering, the entirety of which is incorporated by reference for all purposes.